

MEMORANDUM

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FROM:

Bill,

John thinks this is on the mark -- this is not an NSDD. Also reaffirmed this morning and advised Jim that CRA is dead and should not be put on the table.

Thanks.

Att:

Date 23 April 1985

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Director
Intelligence Community Staff
Washington, D C 20505

20 March 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Reconnaissance Office [redacted]
Director, National Security Agency
Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
Director, Joint Staff, OJCS
Executive Director, Central Intelligence Agency [redacted]
Chairman, COMIREX
Chairman, SIGINT Committee

SUBJECT: Special Task Group on Collection Tasking Authority Transfer

1. The DDCI and DUSD(P) have approved establishment of a special Task Group to develop procedures and prepare documentation for the transfer of DCI collection tasking authority to the Secretary of Defense when warranted, and for the transfer back to the DCI when appropriate. [redacted]

2. Joint Chairmen of the Task Group will be [redacted] Director, Planning and Policy Staff, Intelligence Community Staff, and a representative from ASD(C³I) to be named. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is invited to send an observer to the meetings of the Task Group. [redacted]

3. The Task Group is expected to complete its work within 90 days following the first meeting. [redacted]

4. Terms of Reference for the Task Group are as follows:

The Group will:

- Prepare for submission to the White House by the Secretary of Defense and the DCI a directive for Presidential issuance which sets forth the general circumstances under which DCI collection tasking authority over national intelligence collection systems will be transferred to the Secretary of Defense, and the circumstances under which such tasking authority will be returned to the DCI. This directive will formalize the transfer arrangements agreed to by the DDCI and DUSD(P) on 22 March 1984 in their joint memorandum, "Transfer of National Intelligence Collection

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Tasking Authority," and enable the transfer to be effected without formal approval of the President at the time such transfer is necessary. The DUCI/DUSD(P) agreement, in accordance with EO-12333, dated 4 December 1981, states that "... the Secretary of Defense must have the authority to establish tasking priorities and to resolve conflicts in collection tasking when US forces are engaged in major wartime operations and that, if not directed earlier by the President the transfer of the necessary authority from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Secretary of Defense should be automatic when US military forces are placed on JCS DEFCON 1." The agreement further states "... The authority transferred would not alter the operations of DCI bodies ... nor change the command and control arrangements under which national intelligence collection systems now operate."

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- Prepare a Memorandum of Agreement for signature by the Secretary of Defense and the DCI (or by the Deputy Secretary of Defense and the DDCI) that will set forth in as much detail as is necessary the special procedures and instructions under which the transfer of tasking authority from the DCI to the Secretary of Defense will be accomplished, the scope of the Secretary of Defense's authorities when this occurs, the necessary operational arrangements with established collection management mechanisms, and how and under what circumstances the tasking authority will revert to the DCI. The MOA must respond to a considerable number of questions, among which are the following:

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Subject: Special Task Group on Collection Tasking Authority Transfer [redacted]

[redacted]

The above questions are not meant to be all-inclusive, but illustrate the scope of the problems that require discussion and resolution by the Task Group. [redacted]

5. The MOA should provide a comprehensive set of agreed procedures and instructions so as to minimize any possible confusion in the Intelligence Community and in the Department of Defense responses to intelligence support needs in a major emergency. The key element must be the assurance that the system is capable of full implementation in a grave emergency and can perform effectively and efficiently. The procedures that were previously developed for and successfully tested in the [redacted] exercises should be considered in drafting the MOA. It is intended that the MOA be used as direction and guidance during the training process for personnel who would be involved in implementing the transfer of tasking authority and in the provision of intelligence support after such transfer has been accomplished. The MOA will provide a basis for further testing of the procedures in exercises. [redacted]

6. Since it is recognized that the procedures developed by the Task Group and set forth in the draft MOA may require amendment on the basis of experience, it is intended that the draft procedure be tested as soon as possible in a major exercise. [redacted]

7. Each addressee is requested to provide a member of the Task Group and to advise [redacted] of the name, office location, and telephone number by COB 5 April 1985. The addressees will recognize that the Task Group effort will require proper clearances for discussions related to the transfer of authority problem. [redacted]

[redacted]

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